Setting up of Hoverport for Indian Coast Guard

4168. SHRI K. M. SAIFULLAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hoverport for Indian Coast Guard is being set up to prevent poaching and smuggling;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

(c) whether civilians would be allowed to use the port for their Hovercraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) and (b) yes, Sir. One Hoverport is fully functional at Haldia, whereas the construction of two more Hoverports at Mandapam and Jakhau are in the planning stage.

(c) No, Sir.

Revision of pay scales of Subedar-Major and Havildar

†4169. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level committee had been constituted after the Fifth Pay Commission with regard to revision of pay scale of soldiers and officers of Indian Army, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the pay scale of all categories had been revised except Subedar-Major and Havildar, if so, by when Government propose to revise their pay scales; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) to (c) The Fifth Central Pay Commission (CPC) had made various recommendations for improving the service conditions, including pay and allowances of the Armed Forces Personnel. A High Level Committee (HLC) with Defence Secretary as Chairman, vice Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Chief of Air Staff, Vice Chief of Army Staff and Financial Adviser (Defence Services) as Members was, however, constituted in December, 1997 specifically to consider the anomalies in the pay and allowances of Armed Forces Personnel, arising out of the implementation of the V CPC recommendations. The recommendations of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi